

## Message Text

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45

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 EB-11 SPM-01 IGA-02 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03

PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 IO-13 DPW-01 DRC-01 AGR-20 /149 W

----- 112835

P R 171125Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3030

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

CINCPAC

COMUSMACHTAI

DIA WASHDC

SECDEF

USAAG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 9910

FOR STATE/AID

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, EAID, CB

SUBJ: RICE SITUATION

REF: PHNOM PENH 9569

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE RICE SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION SITUATION  
IN PHNOM PENH FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 9 THROUGH 15.

	9/9	9/10	9/11	9/12
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BEGINNING STOCK	15,238.2	14,527.5	13,818.8	13,142.4
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ROUTE 5	--	--	--	--
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ROUTE 4	--	--	--	--
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MEKONG RIVER	--	--	--	--
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TOTAL AVAILABLE	15,238.2	14,527.5	13,818.8	13,142.4
LESS DISTRIBUTION --		679.9	653.1	797.2
BALANCE	15,238.2	13,847.6	13,165.7	12,345.2
LESS ADJUSTMENT	710.7	28.8	23.3	8.3
BALANCE	14,527.5	13,818.8	13,142.4	12,336.9

9/13	9/14	9/15
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BEGINNING STOCK	12,336.9	11,765.6	11,219.2
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ROUTE 5	--	--	--
ROUTE 4	--	--	--
MEKONG RIVER	--	--	--
TOTAL AVAILABLE	12,336.9	11,765.6	11,219.2
LESS DISTRIBUTION	559.6	540.4	543.5
BALANCE	11,777.3	11,225.6	10,675.7
LESS ADJUSTMENT	11.7	6.4	1.4
BALANCE	11,765.6	11,219.2	10,674.3

2. STOCK POSITION - AS OF SEPTEMBER 15 THERE WAS 10,674 M/T OF RICE AND PADDY (IN RICE EQUIVALENT) IN PHNOM PENH WAREHOUSES AND APPROXIMATELY 2,200 M/T OF RICE IN KOMPONG SOM. THERE REMAIN 5,000 M/T OF THAI RICE AND 12,500 M/T OF THE MOST RECENT THAI PURCHASE (SEE BELOW) WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE BEFORE OCTOBER 15. IN ADDITION TO THESE AMOUNTS THE GKR HOPES TO BE ABLE TO ARRANGE THE PURCHASE OF A SECOND 12,500 M/T OF THAI RICE AND THE LONG AWAITED 5,000 M/T OF JAPANESE RICE BY THE BEGINNING OF OCTOBER.

3. RICE DISTRIBUTION - AS MENTIONED PREVIOUSLY A DECREASE IN THE DAILY RICE ALLOCATION FOR THE CIVILIAN POPULATION OF PHNOM PENH FROM 320 TO 300 M/T WAS DECIDED ON SEPTEMBER 4. ACTUAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS MEASURE GOT UNDERWAY AS OF SEPTEMBER 11. THE ONE WEEK LAG IS BECAUSE RICE ALLOCATIONS TO THE VARIOUS SECTORS ARE MADE ON A 10-DAY BASIS. UP TO SEPTEMBER 10 THE VARIOUS RECEIPIENTS HAVE CONTINUED TO DRAW RICE ON THE BASIS OF THE 320 M/T QUOTA. ON SEPTEMBER 11, THE RICE COMMITTEE SET A LOWER QUOTA FOR RICE DISTRIBUTION TO CIVIL SERVANTS. ON SEPTEMBER 12, THE DAILY QUOTA FOR CIVILIAN CONSUMPTION WAS REDUCED FROM 300 GRAMS PER DAY TO 250 GRAMS PER DAY. THIS SHOULD

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REDUCE THE PHNOM PENH DISTRIBUTION FOR THE CIVIL POPULATION (INCLUDING CIVIL SERVANTS AND CONSUMER COOPERATIVES) TO 250 M/T PER DAY. THERE ARE OTHER FACTORS HOWEVER WHICH COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE ATTEMPT OF THE GKR TO DECREASE RICE DISTRIBUTION:

A. THERE IS AN INCREASE IN DEMAND COMING FROM REFUGEE RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS, IN PHNOM PENH AND ALSO IN KOMPONG SOM WHERE THE

REFUGEE POPULATION HAS SWOLLEN TO 24,000 PERSONS, AN INCREASE OF 8,000 PEOPLE IN THE LAST MONTH.

B. THERE IS ALSO PRESSURE ON THE RICE COMMITTEE ON THE PART OF FANK TO INCREASE DISTRIBUTION ABOVE THE PRESENT 153 TONS.

3. THAI RICE - AS REPORTED BY SEPTTEL THE GKR RICE DELEGATION WAS ABLE TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH THE RTG FOR 12,500 M/T OF BROKENS. LOADING IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN ON OR ABOUT SEPTEMBER 20 IN BANGKOK AND AS PRESENTLY PLANNED 8,500 M/T WILL BE DELIVERED DIRECTLY TO PHNOM PENH, 3,000 M/T TO KOMPONG SOM AND 1,000 M/T TO UTAPAO FOR FUTURE AIRLIFTS.

4. JAPANESE RICE - THE JAPANESE RICE DONATION CONTINUES TO ELUDE THE GKR'S GRASP. THE MOST RECENT REPORT FROM TOKYO INDICATES THAT INTERNAL GOJ CLEARANCES FOR THE DONATION ARE STILL NOT COMPLETE BUT THAT APPROVAL IS EXPECTED SHORTLY.

5. ROUTE 5/BATTAMBANG - THE KI CONTINUE TO HOLD APPROXIMATELY 9 KM. OF ROUTE 5. SINCE FANK'S MAIN EFFORTS ACS NOW PRINCIPALLY DIRECTED TO THE DEFENSE OF KOMPONG CHAM AND CLEARING OPERATIONS ON ROUTE 4 AND 1, THE OUTLOOK FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE IS FOR ROUTE 5 REMAINING CLOSED. REPORTS FROM BATTAMBANG INDICATE THAT SORAPA HAS REQUISITIONED OR IS IN THE PROCESS OF REQUISITIONING A TOTAL OF APPROXIMATELY 4,300 M/T OF RICE OR PADDY IN RICE EQUIVALENT. &DSN ADDITION 804 M/T OF RICE AND BROKENS IS REPORTEDLY IN THE HANDS OF PRIVATE MERCHANTS AWAITING TRANSPORT TO PHNOM PENH). INFORMALLY THE GKR RICE COMMITTEE HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT THE GOVERNOR OF BATTAMBANG HOPES TO HOLD ON TO HALF OF THIS AMOUNT TO HELP MEET RICE REQUIREMENTS

FOR THE BALANCE OF THE YEAR IN REGION III. AT THE PRESENT TIME, HOWEVER, THE CONSENSUS OF THE GKR RICE COMMITTEE IS, HOWEVER, CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT 5,000 M/T OF RICE CAN BE SPARED WITHOUT ADVERSELY AFFECTING THE RICE SITUATION IN BATTAMBANG. ALTHOUGH THE RICE COMMITTEE IS EXPECTED TO APPLY PRESSURE TO RELEASE THE TOTAL 5,000 M/T OF RICE THE QUESTION REMAINS WHETHER THE GOVERNOR WILL COMPLY.

6. RICELIFT - THE FOCUS OF ATTENTION IS NOW PLACED ON KOMPONG CHAM. ALTHOUGH REPORTS VARY IN AN UNDERSTANDABLY CONFUSED SITUATION IT APPEARS AS THOUGH ONLY ABOUT ONE WEEKS SUPPLY REMAINS. THE GKR RICE COMMITTEE IS MAKING ARRANGEMENTS TO SHIP AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY UP TO KOMPONG CHAM BY THE NEXT RIVER CONVOY. IF NECESSARY THIS CAN BE SUPPLEMENTED BY AIR DROPS.

7. STOCK ADJUSTMENT - WE HAVE MADE AN ADJUSTMENT OF APPROXIMATELY 710 M/T FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9. THE REDUCTION WAS NECESSARY IN ORDER TO MAKE REPORTED STOCKS CONFORM TO ACTUAL

STOCKS IN GKR WAREHOUSES AND REPRESENTS PRIMARILY A SHIFT OF RICE  
BROUGHT DOWN PREVIOUSLY FROM BATTAMBANG THAT WAS THOUGHT TO BE  
UNDER GKR STOCK BUT WAS ACTUALLY FOR THE ACCOUNT OF PRIVATE  
MERCHANTS.  
ENDERS

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOOD SHORTAGE, RICE, FOOD ASSISTANCE  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 SEP 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** elyme  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Review Authority:** elyme  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14 NOV 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <14-Nov-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <04-Jan-2002 by elyme>  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RICE SITUATION  
**TAGS:** EGEN, EAID, CB  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005